

Application No.: 09/991,971  
Amendment dated 22 February 2005  
Reply to Office Action mailed 21 October 2004

*AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT*

Please amend the Abstract on page 15 of the Specification with the following Abstract:

**ABSTRACT**

[0059] The invention relates to a method of inhibiting ~~the overactivity of phagocytes or lymphocytes myeloperoxidase activity in neutrophils~~ in an individual by administering to the individual an effective amount of a lignan, where said lignan is enterolactone. The invention is further directed to a method inhibiting myeloperoxidase activity or oxidative burst of macrophages in an individual by administering to the individual an effective amount of a lignan where said lignan is enterolactone or hydroxymatairesinol or a mixture. Finally, the invention is directed to a method of inhibiting oxidative burst or myeloperoxidase activity in neutrophils in an individual by administering to the individual an effective amount of a lignan which is hydroxymatairesinol.

i) the phagocytes are neutrophils and the lignan is hydroxymatairesinol or matairesinol or mixtures thereof, or

ii) the phagocytes are cells of myeloid origin and the lignan is enterolactone or hydroxymatairesinol or mixtures thereof, or

iii) the lymphocytes are T-lymphocytes and the lignan is hydroxymatairesinol, matairesinol or enterolactone or mixtures thereof.

[0060] Furthermore, this invention concerns a method of treating or preventing an acute ischemia-reperfusion injury or chronic condition, caused by overactivity of phagocytes or lymphocytes in an individual, by decreasing the activity of phagocytes in an individual by administering to said individual an effective amount of lignan.